

(a) whether the Tea Board has set up two restaurants in Sydney and London with the collaboration of financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total capital invested by the Tea Board in each of these projects;

(c) the profit earned/loss suffered by these restaurants during each of the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the objective for starting such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) With a view to promote Indian tea in the international market, Tea Board had participated in a joint venture with Hotel Corporation of India Ltd., in which Tea Board had share of 51% and Hotel Corporation of India (HCI) 49%. The India Tea Restaurants Ltd. (ITRL), was incorporated on 30th June, 1981 as a public limited company. This company had set up the Mayur Restaurant in London in October, 1984 and the Sydney Restaurant in October, 1982. The Mayur Restaurant was closed in March, 1990 and the restaurant at Sydney was closed in September, 1990.

The share capital subscribed by Tea Board for M/s. India Tea Restaurants Ltd., was Rs. 25.50 lakhs. The total estimated loss incurred by M/s. ITRL as on 31st March, 1996 has been Rs. 9.54 crores which also includes losses on account of exchange differences and interest charges.

[English]

Decline in Price of Natural Rubber

3699. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of natural rubber has come down recently;

(b) if so, the details of price of natural rubber in the domestic market from July 1, 1996 to till date indicating daily price fluctuation alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stabilise the prices of natural rubber?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The price of natural rubber (RSS IV Grade) has been showing marginal upward and downward movements since July, 1996. The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Does not arise in view of the above.

STATEMENT

Daily Rubber Price in Kottayam Market

(Rs. per Quintal)

Date	RSS-IV	Ungraded
1	2	3
01.07.96	5150	4950
02.07.96	5100	4900
03.07.96	5050	4800
04.07.96	5050	4750
05.07.96	5050	4850
06.07.96	5050	4850
07.07.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
08.07.96	5100	4900
09.07.96	5100	4900
10.07.96	—	4925
11.07.96	4950	4925
12.07.96	5200	4900
13.07.96	5200	4900
14.07.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
15.07.96	5225	4900
16.07.96	5225	4850
17.07.96	5250	4875
18.07.96	5250	4875
19.07.96	5250	4875
20.07.96	5250	4850
21.07.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
22.07.96	5275	4850
23.07.96	5225	4825
24.07.96	5200	4750
25.07.96	5100	4550
26.07.96	5000	4550
27.07.96	4900	4500
28.07.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
29.07.96	4900	4500
30.07.96	No transaction	4450
31.07.96	4800	4400
01.08.96	4800	4350
02.08.96	4800	4500
03.08.96	4900	4500
04.08.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
05.08.96	4900	4500
06.08.96	4900	4550
07.08.96	4950	4600
08.08.96	4950	4640
09.08.96	4950	4650
10.08.96	5000	4750
11.08.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
12.08.96	5150	4825
13.08.96	5150	4850
14.08.96	5200	4825
15.08.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
16.08.96	5175	4750

1	2	3
17.08.96	5125	4600
18.08.96	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
19.08.96	5050	4550
20.08.96	No Transaction	
21.08.96	5050	4600
22.08.96	5050	4600
23.08.96	5050	4700

Restructuring Policy on P.S.U.s

3700. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revise its policy regarding restructuring of Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Consideration of measures to improve the Working of PSUs is a continuing process.

b) Does not arise.

Surplus Land of NTC

3701. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government and the State Government of Maharashtra have evolved a formula on the sharing of the sales proceeds of the surplus lands under National Textile Corporation Mills in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Employment to Candidates of Job-Oriented Course in LIC

3702. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has not yet offered jobs to the candidates who have passed the job-oriented course from respective schools organised by L.I.C. in 1992-93;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the General Insurance Corporation has on the other hand already offered the jobs to the candidates who passed the job-oriented course one year thereafter; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to ensure that these candidates are given jobs without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Under the rules formulated by the LIC, the number of Apprentice Clerical Assistants from the vocational training course stream, shall be restricted to 25% of the net vacancies in the Division in whose area the schools are located. The LIC have reported that they could not offer jobs to some of the candidates who have passed out in 1992-93, for want of sufficient number of vacancies against the earmarked 25% quota for them.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The LIC have reported that these candidates will be absorbed as soon as the vacancies arise.

Extension of Service Period of Officers in State Bank of Indore

3703. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the details of officers given extension in service by State Bank of Indore during 1995 and the dates since when they have been working in the Head Office;

(b) whether the C.B.I. has made serious remarks against most of these officers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind overlooking the C.B.I. report?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) State Bank of Indore has reported that of the 92 eligible officers given extension in service in terms of State Bank of Indore (Officers') Service Regulations, 1979, during the year 1995, 18 have been working at the Head Office. Details are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Names of the Officers, posted at Head Office of State Bank of Indore who were given extension during the year 1995.

S.No.	Name (S/Shri)	Designation	Since when they were posted at HQ.
1.	B.S. Gupta	Deputy Manager	Sept. 91
2.	N.D. Saxena	Manager	Sept. 89